

Amendment

Reply to Final Office Action dated March 7, 2006

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and these remarks are in response to the Final Office Action dated March 7, 2006. This amendment is timely filed.

At the time of the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 4 and 6 were pending. In the Office Action, claims 1, 3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claim 4 was indicated to be allowed. The rejections are discussed in more detail below.

I. Rejections to the claims based upon Art and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,658,710 to Quet et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,355,780 to Campbell. Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the prior art as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,237,914 to Carstensen. Claim 4 was indicated to be allowed. Claims 1, 3 and 6 are cancelled herein.

II. Conclusion

Applicants have made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the prior art, and it is thus believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. Nevertheless, Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance. In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6-5-06


Mark D. Passler
Registration No. 40,764
AKERMAN SENTERFITT
Post Office Box 3188
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3188
Telephone: (561) 653-5000

Docket No. 9660-4